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Montana Medicaid Managed Care Bureau Names Physician Advisor for Nurse First Programs

Advisor to support Medicaid providers participating in Nurse First

(HELENA)---The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and McKesson Health Solutions, a business unit of McKesson Corporation, today announced that Janice Gomersall, M.D., has been named Physician Advisor for the Nurse First programs.

“Dr. Gomersall will work very closely with physicians and other health care providers throughout Montana to ensure that they receive the program information they need about Nurse First,” said Mary Angela Collins, Medicaid Managed Care Bureau Chief at DPHHS. “Dr. Gomersall will also head an advisory board that will work with providers in our state to ensure that the Nurse First Programs meet Montana’s needs and are successful here. We’re excited to have a such a well-qualified, enthusiastic liaison for Nurse First on board,” Collins added.

Nurse First began in January 2004 and includes disease management and nurse triage services for approximately 65,000 Medicaid beneficiaries throughout the state.

“Nurse First is a terrific program, and I’m looking forward to letting other providers know about the ways the program can help improve the health of their Medicaid patients,” Dr. Gomersall said.

McKesson administers the nurse triage line and the disease management programs of asthma, diabetes, heart failure, cancer and chronic pain. Participants in the disease management programs receive one-on-one counseling with a registered nurse about their chronic illness. The registered nurses work in McKesson’s Care Centers, or are community-based nurses who travel to certain clients’ homes to administer the programs.

Dr. Gomersall, who’s lived in Montana for about eight years, will continue as a family practitioner specializing in obstetrics at the Lolo Family Practice in Lolo, where she’s treated patients since 1996.

In addition to practicing medicine, Dr. Gomersall is extremely active in Montana’s medical community, including positions as:

- Vice-Chair, Joint Investigational Review Board, St. Patrick Hospital and Community Medical Center, Missoula;

- Member, Quality Management Committee, Western Montana Clinic, Missoula;
- Member, C-Section Task Force, Community Medical Center OB Department, Missoula;
- Clinical Preceptor, Montana State University FNP program; and
- Clinical Preceptor, RUOP Program for first year medical students.

For more information about Nurse First, contact Tedd Weldon at the DPHHS Managed Care Bureau at (406) 444-1518 or email teweldon@state.mt.us.

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